

## Mathematical Symbols

Mathematical symbols are used to perform various operations. The symbols make it easier to refer Mathematical quantities. It is interesting to note that Mathematics is completely based on numbers and symbols. The math symbols not only refer to different quantities but also represent the relationship between two quantities. All mathematical symbols are mainly used to perform mathematical operations under various concepts.

As we know, the full name of Maths is Mathematics. It is defined as the science of calculating, measuring, quantity, shape, and structure. It is based on logical thinking, numerical calculations, and the study of shapes. Algebra, trigonometry, geometry, and number theory are examples of mathematical dimensions, and the concept of Maths is purely dependent on numbers and symbols.

There are many symbols used in Maths that have some predefined values. To simplify the expressions, we can use those kinds of values instead of those symbols. Some of the examples are the pi symbol ( $\pi$ ), which holds the value  $22/7$  or 3.14. The pi symbol is a mathematical constant which is defined as the ratio of circumference of a circle to its diameter. In Mathematics, pi symbol is also referred to as Archimedes constant. Also, e-symbol in Maths which holds the value  $e = 2.718281828$ . This symbol is known as e-constant or Euler's constant. The table provided below has a list of all the common symbols in Maths with meaning and examples.

There are so many mathematical symbols that are very important to students. To understand this in an easier way, the list of mathematical symbols are noted here with definition and examples. There are numerous signs and symbols, ranging from the simple addition concept sign to the complex integration concept sign. Here, the list of mathematical symbols is provided in a tabular form, and those notations are categorized according to the concept.

### List of Mathematical Symbols

#### Basic Mathematical Symbols With Name, Meaning and Examples

The basic mathematical symbols used in Maths help us to work with mathematical concepts in a theoretical manner. In simple words, without symbols, we cannot do maths. The mathematical signs and symbols are considered as representative of the value. The basic symbols in maths are used to express mathematical thoughts. The relationship between the sign and the value refers to the fundamental need of mathematics. With the help of symbols, certain concepts and ideas are clearly explained. Here is a list of commonly used mathematical symbols with names and meanings. Also, an example is provided to understand the usage of mathematical symbols.

Symbol	Symbol Name in Maths	Math Symbols	Meaning	Example
$\neq$	not equal sign			
$\geq$	greater than or equal to	$10 \geq 6$		
$=$	equal sign	$3 = 1 + 2$		
$>$	strict inequality greater than	$6 > 2$		
$\leq$	inequality less than or equal to	$x \leq y$		
$\propto$	means, y = x or y > x,			

## P

but not vice-versa.  $a \geq b$  inequality greater than or equal to  $a \geq b$ , means,  $a = b$  or  $a > b$ , but vice-versa does not hold true.  $[ ]$  brackets calculate expression inside first  $[ 2 - 5 ] + 7 = 10 + 7 = 17$   $( )$  parentheses calculate expression inside first  $3 - (3 + 7) = 3 - 10 = -7$   $^$  minus sign subtraction  $5^2 = 25$   $+$  plus sign addition  $4 + 5 = 9$   $^-$  minus  $^-$  plus both minus and plus operations  $1^4 = 1$   $+$   $^-$  plus  $^-$  minus both plus and minus operations  $5 + 3 = 8$  and  $2 -$  times sign multiplication  $4 - 3 = 1$   $*$  asterisk multiplication  $2 * 3 = 6$   $\cdot$  division sign / obelus division  $15 \div 5 = 3$   $\cdot$  multiplication dot multiplication  $2 \cdot 3 = 6$   $\frac{\quad}{\quad}$  horizontal line division / fraction  $\frac{8}{2} = 4$  / division slash division  $6 \bmod 2 = 0$  mod modulo remainder calculation  $7 \bmod 3 = 1$  ab power exponent  $2^4 = 16$  . period decimal point, decimal separator  $4.36 = 4 + (36/100)$   $\sqrt{\quad}$  square root  $\sqrt{\quad} = a^b$   $\wedge$  caret exponent  $2^3 = 8$   $\sqrt[4]{\quad}$  fourth root  $\sqrt[4]{\quad} = a^{\frac{1}{n}}$   $\sqrt[4]{\quad} = a^{\frac{1}{4}}$   $\sqrt[4]{16} = 2$   $\sqrt[3]{\quad}$  cube root  $\sqrt[3]{\quad} = a^{\frac{1}{n}}$   $\sqrt[3]{343} = 7$  % percent  $1\% = 1/100$   $\frac{\quad}{100}$   $= 3\%$   $n$ -th root (radical)  $n$ -th root  $\sqrt[n]{\quad} = a^{\frac{1}{n}}$   $\sqrt[n]{8} = 2$  ppm per-million  $1 \text{ ppm} = 1/1000000$   $\frac{\quad}{1000000}$   $\frac{30}{1000000} = 0.0003$   $\text{‰}$  per-mille  $1\text{‰} = 1/1000 = 0.1\%$   $\frac{30}{1000} = 0.3$  ppt per-trillion  $1 \text{ ppt} = 10^{-12}$   $\frac{30}{10^{12}} = 3 \times 10^{-13}$  ppb per-billion  $1 \text{ ppb} = 1/1000000000$   $\frac{30}{10^9} = 3 \times 10^{-8}$

Maths Logic symbols With Meaning Symbol Symbol Name in Maths Math Symbols Meaning Example  $\wedge$  caret / circumflex and  $x \wedge y$   $\&$  and and  $x \& y$   $+$  plus or  $x + y$   $\&$  ampersand and  $x \& y$   $|$  vertical line or  $x | y$   $\bar{\quad}$  reversed caret or  $x \bar{\quad} y$   $\bar{\quad}$  bar not  $\hat{\quad}$  negation  $\hat{x}$ ,  $\hat{\quad}$  single-quote not  $\hat{\quad}$  negation  $\hat{\quad}$  ! Exclamation mark not  $\hat{\quad}$  negation !  $\neg$  not  $\hat{\quad}$  negation  $\sim$   $\neg$  x  $\sim$  tilde negation  $\sim x$   $\oplus$  circled plus / oplus exclusive or  $\hat{\quad}$  xor  $\hat{\quad}$   $\hat{\quad}$   $\hat{\quad}$   $\hat{\quad}$  equivalent if and only if (iff) p: this year has 366 days

q: this is a leap year

p  $\hat{\quad}$  q  $\hat{\quad}$  implies Implication p: a number is a multiple of 4 q: the number is even p  $\hat{\quad}$  q  $\hat{\quad}$   $\hat{\quad}$  Belong to/is an element of Set membership  $A = \{1, 2, 3\}$

$\hat{\quad}$   $\hat{\quad}$  A  $\hat{\quad}$  % Not element of Negation of set membership  $A = \{1, 2, 3\}$

$\forall x \in \mathbb{N}$  for all Universal Quantifier  $2n$  is even  $\in \mathbb{N}$  where  $N$  is a set of Natural Numbers  $\forall$  equivalent if and only if (iff)  $p: x$  is an even number  $q: x$  is divisible by 2  $p \Rightarrow q$ , there does not exist Negation of existential quantifier  $b$  is not divisible by  $a$ , then  $\exists n \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $b = na$   $\exists$  there exists Existential quantifier  $b$  is divisible by  $a$ , then  $\forall n \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $b = na$   $\mu$  because / since Because shorthand  $a = b, b = c \Rightarrow a = c$  ( $\mu a = b$ )  $\therefore$  therefore Therefore shorthand (Logical consequence)  $x + 6 = 10 \Rightarrow x = 4$  Calculus and Analysis Symbol Names in Maths In calculus, we have come across different math symbols. All mathematical symbols with names and meanings are provided here. Go through the all mathematical symbols used in calculus. Symbol Symbol Name in Maths Math Symbols Meaning Example  $\epsilon$  epsilon represents a very small number, near-zero  $\epsilon > 0$   $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = L$  limit value of a function  $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} (3x+1) = 3A - a + 1 = 3a + 1$   $y \sim$  derivative derivative  $\in$  Lagrange's notation  $(5x^3) \in = 15x^2$   $e$  constant / Euler's number  $e = 2.718281828$   $e = \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} (1+1/x)^x$ ,  $x \rightarrow \infty$   $y^{(n)}$   $n$ th derivative  $n$  times derivation  $n$ th derivative of  $3x^n = 3n(n-1)(n-2) \dots (2)(1) = 3n!$   $y \in \bullet$  second derivative derivative of derivative  $(4x^3) \in \bullet = 24x$   $(\begin{array}{l} \frac{d^2 y}{dx^2} \end{array})$  second derivative derivative of derivative  $(\begin{array}{l} \frac{d^2}{dx^2} (6x^3 + x^2 + 3x + 1) = 36x + 1 \end{array})$   $dy/dx$  derivative derivative  $\in$  Leibniz's notation  $(\begin{array}{l} \frac{d}{dx} (5x) = 5 \end{array})$   $(\begin{array}{l} \frac{d^n y}{dx^n} \end{array})$   $n$ th derivative  $n$  times derivation  $(\begin{array}{l} \frac{d^n x}{dx^n} = n! \end{array})$   $(\begin{array}{l} \ddot{y} = \frac{d^2 y}{dt^2} \end{array})$  Second derivative of time derivative of derivative If  $y = 4t^2$ , then  $(\begin{array}{l} \ddot{y} = \frac{d^2 y}{dt^2} = 4 \frac{d^2}{dt^2} (t^2) = 8 \end{array})$   $(\begin{array}{l} \dot{y} \end{array})$  Single derivative of time derivative by time  $\in$  Newton's notation  $y = 5t$ , then  $(\begin{array}{l} \dot{y} = \frac{dy}{dt} = 5 \frac{d}{dt} (t) = 5 \end{array})$   $D^2x$  second derivative derivative of derivative  $y \in \bullet + 2y + 1 = 0 \Rightarrow D^2y + 2Dy + 1 = 0$   $Dx$  derivative derivative  $\in$  Euler's notation  $dy/x \in 1 = 0 \Rightarrow Dy \in 1 = 0$   $\int$  integral opposite to derivation  $\int x^n dx = \frac{x^{n+1}}{n+1} + C$   $(\begin{array}{l} \frac{\partial f(x,y)}{\partial x} \end{array})$  partial derivative Differentiating a function with respect to one variable considering the other variables as constant  $\hat{,} (x^2 + y^2) / \hat{,} x = 2x$   $\hat{-}$  triple integral integration of the function of 3 variables  $(\begin{array}{l} \int_1^2 \int_2^3 \int_0^1 (xyz) : dz; dx; dy \end{array})$   $\hat{-}$  double integral integration of the function of 2 variables  $\hat{-} (x^3 + y^3) dx dy$   $\hat{-}$  closed surface integral Double integral over a closed surface  $\hat{-} \int_V (F \cdot \vec{n}) dV = \int_S (F \cdot \vec{n}) dS$   $\hat{\circ}$  closed contour / line integral Line integral over closed curve  $\hat{\circ} \int_C \frac{2}{z} dz$   $[a, b]$  closed interval  $[a, b] = \{x \mid a \leq x \leq b\}$   $\sin x$   $\hat{\circ} [1, 1]$   $\hat{\circ}$  closed volume integral Volume integral over a closed three-dimensional domain  $\hat{\circ} (x^2 + y^2 + z^2) dx dy dz$   $(a, b)$  open interval  $(a, b) = \{x \mid a$

### Combinatorics Symbols Used in Maths

The different Combinatorics symbols used in maths concern the study of the combination of finite discrete structures. Some of the most important combinatorics symbols used in maths are as follows:

Symbol Symbol Name Meaning or Definition Example  $n P k$  Permutation  $(\begin{array}{l} 1 \\ \vdots \\ n \end{array}) P_k = \frac{n!}{(n-k)!}$  )  $(\begin{array}{l} 1 \\ \vdots \\ 5 \end{array}) P_3 = \frac{5!}{(5-3)!} = 60$  )  $n!$  Factorial  $n! = 1 \times 2 \times 3 \times \dots \times n$   $5! = 1 \times 2 \times 3 \times 4 \times 5 = 120$   $n C k$  Combination  $(\begin{array}{l} 1 \\ \vdots \\ n \end{array}) C_k = \frac{n!}{k!(n-k)!}$  )  $(\begin{array}{l} 1 \\ \vdots \\ 5 \end{array}) C_3 = \frac{5!}{3!(5-3)!} = 10$  )

### Greek Alphabet Letters Used in Maths

Mathematicians frequently use Greek alphabets in their work to represent the variables, constants, functions and so on. Some of the commonly used Greek symbols name in Maths are listed below:

Greek Symbol	Greek Letter	Name	English Equivalent	Pronunciation	Upper Case	Lower Case	$\hat{1}$	$\hat{2}$	Beta	b	be-ta	$\hat{1}$	$\hat{2}$	Alpha	a	
	$\hat{1}$	$\hat{1}$	Delta	d del-ta	$\hat{1}$	$\hat{3}$	Gamma	g ga-ma	$\hat{1}$	$\hat{1}$	Zeta	z ze-ta	$\hat{1}$	$\hat{1}$	Epsilon	e ep-si-lon
	$\hat{1}$	$\hat{1}$	Theta	th te-ta	$\hat{1}$	$\hat{1}$	Eta	h eh-ta	$\hat{1}$	$\hat{1}$	Kappa	k ka-pa	$\hat{1}$	$\hat{1}$	Iota	i io-ta
	$\hat{1}$	$\hat{1}$	Mu	m m-yoo	$\hat{1}$	$\hat{1}$	Lambda	l lam-da	$\hat{1}$	$\hat{1}$	Xi	x x-ee	$\hat{1}$	$\hat{1}$	Nu	n
	$\hat{1}$	$\hat{1}$	Omicron	o o-mee-c-ron	$\hat{1}$	$\hat{1}$	Pi	p pa-yee	$\hat{1}$	$\hat{1}$	Sigma	s sig-ma	$\hat{1}$	$\hat{1}$	Rho	r row
	$\hat{1}$	$\hat{1}$	Upsilon	u oo-psi-lon	$\hat{1}$	$\hat{1}$	Tau	t ta-oo	$\hat{1}$	$\hat{1}$	Chi	ch kh-ee	$\hat{1}$	$\hat{1}$	Phi	ph f-ee
	$\hat{1}$	$\hat{1}$	Psi	ps p-see	$\hat{1}$	$\hat{1}$	Omega	o o-me-ga	$\hat{1}$	$\hat{1}$			$\hat{1}$	$\hat{1}$		

### Common Numeral Symbols Used in Maths

The roman numerals are used in many applications and can be seen in our real-life activities. The common Roman numeral symbols used in Maths are as follows.

Name	European	Roman	Arabic	Hebrew	zero	0	n/a	0	n/a	one	1	I	U̇; x•	two	2	II	U̇ç x'	three	3	III	U̇£ x'	four	4	IV	U̇¤ x"	five	5	V	U̇¥ x"	six	6	VI	U̇  x•	seven	7	VII	U̇§ x-	eight	8	VIII	U̇" x-	nine	9	IX	U̇© x~	ten	10	X	U̇;U̇ x™	eleven	11	XI	U̇;U̇; x™x•	twelve	12	XII	U̇;U̇ç x™x'	thirteen	13	XIII	U̇;U̇£ x™x'	fourteen	14	XIV	U̇;U̇¤ x™x"	fifteen	15	XV	U̇;U̇¥ x~x•	sixteen	16	XVI	U̇;U̇  x~x-	seventeen	17	XVII	U̇;U̇§ x™x-	eighteen	18	XVIII	U̇;U̇" x™x-	nineteen	19	XIX	U̇;U̇© x™x~	twenty	20	XX	U̇çU̇ x>	thirty	30	XXX	U̇£U̇ x¤	forty	40	XL	U̇¤U̇ xž	fifty	50	L	U̇¥U̇ x	sixty	60	LX	U̇ U̇ x;	seventy	70	LXX	U̇§U̇ xç	eighty	80	LXXX	
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∞ ninety 90 X C ∞ one hundred 100 C ∞ ∞

These are some of the most important and commonly used symbols in mathematics. It is important to get completely acquainted with all the maths symbols to be able to solve maths problems efficiently. It should be noted that without knowing maths symbols, it is extremely difficult to grasp certain concepts on a universal scale. Some of the key importance of maths symbols are summarized below.

Importance of Mathematical Symbols

Helps in denoting quantities

Establishes relationships between quantities

Helps to identify the type of operation

Makes reference easier

Maths symbols are universal and break the language barrier

Frequently Asked Questions on Math Symbols What is the pi symbol in Maths? The pi symbol is a mathematical constant, which is approximately equal to 3.14. The symbol of pi is  $\pi$  and it is a Greek alphabet. Pi is an irrational number which is defined as the ratio of circle circumference to its diameter. What is e symbol in mathematics? The  $e$  symbol in maths represents Euler's number which is approximately equal to 2.71828. It is considered as one of the most important numbers in mathematics. It is an irrational number and it cannot be represented as a simple fraction Write down the symbols for basic arithmetic operations. The symbols for basic arithmetic operations are addition (+), subtraction (-), Multiplication ( $\times$ ), Division ( $\div$ ). Why do we use mathematical symbols? Mathematics is a universal language and the basics of maths are the same everywhere in the universe. Mathematical symbols play a major role in this. The definition and the value of the symbols are constant. For example, the Roman letter X represents the value 10 everywhere around us. Mention the logic symbols in maths. The logic symbols in maths are:

AND (^)

OR ( $\hat{\vee}$ )

NOT ( $\hat{\neg}$ )

Implies ( $\hat{\Rightarrow}$ )

Equivalent ( $\hat{\Leftrightarrow}$ )

For all ( $\hat{\forall}$ )

There exists ( $\hat{\exists}$ )

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## Reference

[Evidence-Based Practice: An Integrative Approach to Research, Administration, and Practice: An Integrative Approach to Research, Administration, and Practice](#)

[Practical Statistics for Medical Research \(Chapman & Hall/CRC Texts in Statistical Science\)](#)